In re Appln. of Todd A. Kuiken Application No. 09/558,570 Second Preliminary Amendment

Remarks

New claims 30-37 have been added. Claims 1-9 and 23-37 are presented herein, the examination and consideration of which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been introduced in the present amendment. The subject matter of claims 23-30, for example, is supported by FIGS. 14a, 14b, and the specification at page 11, lines 8-26.

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Belush, Reg. No. 37,090 One of the Attorneys for Applicant(s)

GARDNER CARTON & DOUGLAS LLP

191 North Wacker Drive, Suite 3700

Chicago, Illinois 60606-1698 (312) 569-1000 (telephone) (312) 569-3000 (facsimile)

Customer No.: 08968

Date: February 24, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (along with any documents referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

February 24,2005 J. Mihiticuh

CH02/22367423.1